

Van Beek Honors Vets by Organizing Flight

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Faculty Notes

Chemistry post-doctoral fellow **Dr. Joshua Zhu** successfully completed his Ph.D. during the spring semester. His dissertation, titled "Glycosylation: Function, Synthesis and Application," explores chemo-enzymatic synthesis of glycopeptide and its application in drug discovery.



Dr. Tom Clark, associate professor of mathematics, presented "Barbie Bungee: Multivariable Edition" at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego in January. Clark was also selected as chair of the SIGMAA-MCST, a special interest group in the Mathematical Association of America that works to promote fun math activities among students and teachers across the United States.

Dr. Abby Foreman, professor of social work, completed her Ph.D. in political science and public administration from the University of South Dakota. She successfully defended her dissertation, titled "Perceptions of the Contract-For-Services Relationships: The Impact of Trust." She also presented "Trust, Goals, and Motivations in Contract-For-Services Relationships" at the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, Illinois on April 5.



Assistant Professor of Theology **Dr. David Henreckson's** article "Resisting the Devil's Instruments: Retrieving Early Modern Resistance Theory for Late Modern Times" was published in the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*. Henreckson also lectured at Redeemer University College on "The Future of Christian Political Theology" and gave a presentation titled "Political Theology in the Age of Trump" at Western Theological Seminary.



Buiter Van Beek Honors Vets by Organizing Flight



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Starting this fall, Aaron Van Beek will teach third grade at Kinsey Elementary School in Sioux Center. "Teaching is a way I can give back, much like I'm trying to do with honor flights," he says.

VAN BEEK HONORS VETS BY ORGANIZING FLIGHT

Just four days after graduating in May, Aaron Van Beek ('18) sent out his second honor flight carrying veterans to visit Washington, D.C. Van Beek is president and director of Midwest Honor Flight, a branch of the national organization that he started while a student at Dordt.

It all began with a trip to Arlington National Cemetery—and Twitter. After visiting Arlington, Van Beek followed the cemetery on Twitter and explored its website. There he read about Wreaths Across America and decided to start a branch in Sioux Center. Van Beek learned about the honor flights when the Fort Dodge Honor Flight organization asked his Wreaths Across America branch to sponsor a couple of veterans from Sioux County who were being included in their honor flight.

"There hasn't been an honor flight in South Dakota or southwest Minnesota since around 2012," says Van Beek. "So I started looking into the possibility of opening up an honor flight locally."

Van Beek turned that possibility into reality. He credits his history classes and the opportunities he's had to learn about other countries for providing him with context for his work.

"What I appreciate most about the flight is that it brings healing and closure to the veterans and their families. They were willing to lay down their lives in service for their country. A lot of them don't think that they deserve this honor, and they don't say that they're heroes, but they are. They all deserve to go," he says.

ERIKA BUITER ('21)



ALICIA BOWAR ('05)

CLASS OF 1968 REUNITES

The class of 1968 graduates and their spouses visited Dordt for the 50th class reunion in May. They enjoyed a luncheon, toured campus, and watched the 2018 commencement ceremony.